

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01614 191959Z

42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-09 SS-15 SP-02 L-02 INR-07 PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 297

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1614

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, IR

SUBJ: SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT (AKA PEACE SCEPTER
III OR PEACE SWITCH)

REFS: (A) STATE 031923; (B) STATE 036435

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY PARA 4, REF (A), WE BELIEVE THAT MOST GOI OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH THIS PROJECT WOULD LIKE ASSURANCE THAT COULD COME FROM USG MANAGEMENT ROLE. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED PROJECT WITH QOTBI, BUT ASSUME THAT HE, LIKE OTHERS, SEES LITTLE CHANCE OF USG AGREEMENT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY DIRECT MANNER. NEXT BEST SOLUTION FOR GOI MIGHT APPEAR "PUBLIC SERVICE" TYPE CORPORATIONS, HENCE INTEREST IN COMSAT GENERAL AND AT&T.

2. WE ARE VERY PLEASED WITH MALEK ABHARI'S INVITATION TO AT&T. A HAPPY OUTCOME TO OUR MONTHS OF INACTION ON THIS PROJECT MIGHT BE IRANIAN SELECTION OF COMSAT GENERAL FOR ASSISTANCE TO QOTBI ON SATELLITE SEGMENT AND AT&T FOR AID TO MALEK ABHARI ON COMMUNICATIONS PORTION. IF USAF BRIEFING OCCURS AS NOW SCHEDULED IN MARCH, WE SHOULD THEN BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS DEEMED NECESSARY, FOR ANY FURTHER APPROACHES TO GOI ON THIS PROJECT.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

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